

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Hiroshi Yoshida et al.
Serial No. : 10/599,921
Filed : October 13, 2006
Entitled : FRACTURE PREDICTION DEVICE FOR SPOT WELDED
PORTION, METHOD OF THE SAME, COMPUTER
PROGRAM, AND COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING
MEDIUM
Group Art Unit : To be assigned
Examiner : To be assigned
Confirmation No. : 6597

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, and respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-captioned application. Copy of the reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under

United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

This submission is being filed before any action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the merits. Therefore, applicants do not believe that any fee is due in connection with the submission of this paper. However, if any fee is due, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-2054.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP

Date: December 19, 2006


Gary Abelev, Esq.
USPTO Reg. No. 40,479
Attorney for Applicant
(212) 415-9371